

Caroline Town Board Meeting Minutes of July 5, 2016

The Town Board Agenda meeting held on July 5, 2016 at the Caroline Town Hall was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Mark Witmer.

Attendance:

Mark Witmer, Supervisor
John Fracchia, Councilmember
Irene Weiser, Councilmember
Gary Reinbolt, Councilmember
Cal Snow, Councilmember

Recording

Secretary: Marilou Harrington-Lawson, Town Clerk and Becky Jordan, Deputy Clerk

Also present:

Mr. Witmer started the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Privilege of the Floor

Barbara Perrone - Came to say she would like the trail to be opened in Caroline.

Presentation

Tompkins Youth Services Presentation

Janice Johnson - The Tompkins Youth Services Department of Ithaca Youth Bureau is in its 15th year. The program offers services, and at risk programs such as Youth Development, and Recreation Development. The Recreational Development program covers 11 municipalities in Tompkins County. Karyn Scott is the representative for the Town of Caroline. There is a 2015 Year End Recreation Partnership Registration Summary- (See Attachment 1) The Town of Caroline had 171 participants in 2014 and 104 in 2015; there was a significant drop in 2015. The Town of Caroline does get Scholarships for residents who apply, which was 16% in 2015 but can be as much as 100% of the monies contributed by the Town of Caroline depending on how many scholarships are applied for by residents. The Town of Caroline's payment: 2014 \$7,706.00; 2015 7982.00; 2016 \$8588.00, these amounts are based on assessed housing and not on participants in the programs. It is recommended that residents are encouraged to apply for scholarships which is based on income but also special circumstances and not necessarily income (death in family, natural disaster, unexpected life changing event, etc) allow children to receive scholarships.

A "Needs Assessment" was done in 2012 and the results were parents felt Tompkins County was good place to live because of the numerous parks and recreation areas.

Ithaca and Tompkins County were higher than the National average on the use of alcohol and marijuana use from 7th and 12th graders. They were less on cigarette use than the National average.

Reports

Cindy Whittaker, Highway Superintendent

No report

Gary Reinbolt, Town Board

No report

John Fracchia, Town Board

Building and Grounds

- Walkthrough of remaining town facilities will take place after July 9th.

Emergency Services

- The Town of Caroline Emergency Services Advisory committee met on June 16th.
- Concern was raised about response time to Slaterville Springs as there is no longer EMS response. In Brooktondale, Brooktondale FD is toned out first and in Speedsville, Speedsville FD. Doug Keefe indicated that for Slaterville Springs, Bangs is the first tone.
- The group discussed AED devices within Caroline and brainstormed a list of locations that might be optimal to have them. Discussed doing a survey of these organizations to see who already has them and who might be interested in obtaining one. There is a training component to doing so.
- Advocacy initiatives were discussed including potential to connect with Cornell students interested in first response who are not selected for Cornell's squad – approximately 16 are chosen per year.
- Keefe reported that the County Chief's Association, of which he is President, is working on a grant effort in conjunction with Cornell students to improve recruitment and retention efforts.
- Further discussion on community CPR/First Aid training. Beth Harrington reached out via e-mail and indicated that Slaterville Springs FD recently did a session. Discussed reaching out to potential partner organizations such as Caroline Youth Group, Caroline Elementary/PTA, and Speedsville Community Center to assess interest in helping with this effort. Keefe suggested a goal of getting 100 community members certified.
- Incentive and engagement programs were discussed (Participation In Government; Restricted Access Member; Volunteer America) as potential models for our community.
- Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 20 at Speedsville FD.

Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium

- No update since last report.

Cal Snow, Town Board

No Report

Irene Wesier, Town Board

Aquifer Protection Committee

Met with Steve Winkley – finalized first draft of Aquifer Protection Local Law – forwarded to Guy and Kevin for review. Have heard back from Guy – waiting to hear from Kevin. Meeting planned for July 12 to discuss Guy’s comments and needed revisions.

CIT

Coordinated w/Mike Dodge about beginning security upgrades. Something came up and he was unable to execute. Not sure where he’s at with it now, have written to check in.

Attended public meeting and promising discussion w/Gary and Haefele re: possible fiber for community wide broadband. Gary will write RFP! Fingers crossed.

TCCOG

RESP – Municipal and community comments were reviewed and changes made to report as needed – final RESP report coming soon. Resolution requesting Board’s endorsement will be moved at business meeting.

Community Choice Aggregation – Gordon Boyd and Barbara Blanchard from MEGA (municipal electric and gas alliance) attended our CCA working group meeting late June to describe the process for municipalities interested in joining together to form a Community Choice Aggregation to purchase energy for residents and small businesses. MEGA is looking to launch a CCA before the end of the year – Hoping towns in Tompkins Co will get on board. Our working group is still exploring options. MEGA will provide low cost energy and be administrator. May provide “opt up” for renewables if there is interest - renewables will likely be unbundled RECs. MEGA is most interested in getting a “basic” program going – talking to many municipalities across the State. All towns w/in Tompkins Co, or w/in our CCA working group don’t have to join – up to individual town boards what they want to do. MEGA willing to talk to any town board that is interested. Requires substantial community education, choosing a program administrator, developing a plan, approval by PSC and passage of local law to undertake CCA. My recommendation – keep exploring options. Looking to have other CCA program administrators speak to our CCA working group over the next couple months, along with educating ourselves about other possible ownership models such as cooperatives. And at least a couple of options to consider re: administration - Third party (such as MEGA) or inter-municipal/local administration?

Energy Roadmap and Implementation plan – County energy roadmap is complete. Soon Planning Dept will convene an advisory committee to develop implementation plan. Previous discussion with Energy Independent Caroline and community members about possible mid-scale wind development in Caroline. Do we want to do anything with that? Develop local law for siting such? Planning dept will help with

developing model codes.

Karyn Scott, Committee Member

Joint Youth Commission: Held June 14, 2016 from 7:00 p.m until 8:30 p.m

-The total number of participants involved in The Learning Web was lower than normal because the current results were interpreted different than past results.

-As a result, the JYC committee members asked for more in depth information and frequent updates on their programs.

-Jonathan who has been the youth board member just graduated so a new youth member is needed. The volunteer must be at least 16 years old.

-There was a going away party for Jonathan.

Recreational Partnership: Held June 29, 2016 from 5:00 p.m until 6:00 p.m

-Reviewed the current and possible 2017 budget for the IYB.

-There was a mistake, so the budget will need to be modified and the committee will meet again July 12th to discuss this matter.

-There is a 3% projected budget increase and several programs which include pool passes, skate & swim, and possibly baseball and softball may be cut.

-Summer camp, theatre camp and classes, and art camp have increased prices.

-The updated I-Play book is smaller in size and the information is condensed. The changes have been well received. I will bring one copy with me.

-Stewart Park Day Camp is full.

-Cass Park Day Camp is approximately 90% full.

-In the past, the camps have been used to successfully advertise other programs offered at the JYC.

-Compared to other camps, these camps are low in price.

-Fall registration just began and is going well.

-The online registration is highly utilized.

-Janice's visit on July 5th should include:

Best places to display I-Play books and other resources.

Specific numbers and costs.

Key slides focused on youth development that elaborate drug and alcohol statistics regarding 7th-12th grade students.

Town Business

Discussion of the Recreation Partnership Agreement- postponed

----Adjourn the meeting ----

A motion by Mr. Witmer and seconded by Mr. Fracchia the meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilou Harrington-Lawson, Town Clerk

Becky Jordan, Deputy Clerk